AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 . (Previously presented) An electronic camera, comprising:

a display to display a sequence of captured images of an object;

a detection device, which detects brightness of the object;

an imaging device which captures the sequence of images and outputs image signals for said sequence of images at a rate defined by an imaging cycle of said imaging device, said imaging cycle defining a maximum exposure period for said imaging device for the captured sequence of images;

a changing device which automatically changes a default imaging cycle of the imaging device by doubling according to the brightness of the object, thereby changing the maximum exposure period for said imaging device for the captured sequence of images, wherein the changing device doubles the default imaging cycle at least once when the brightness of the object is lower than the brightness corresponding to the default imaging cycle;

an image memory for temporarily storing the image signals sequentially outputted from the imaging device, said image signals in the image memory are read out with a predetermined interval and outputted to the display; and

a controller which controls the display to display said sequence of images according to the image signals while the imaging device is capturing subsequent images, such that said display shows a live image of the captured sequence of images to enable determination of an image-capturing angle of view.

2. (Original) The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein the changing device is manually operated to change the cycle of the imaging device.

3 -15 (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

a signal processor for processing and temporarily storing image signals outputted by said imaging device before outputting to said display.

17. (Previously Presented) The electronic camera as defined in claim 16, further comprising a memory card for storing select images outputted by said imaging device.

18. (Previously Presented) The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein said rate is a video rate, and said changing device changes said video rate to enable said imaging device to output brighter images to said display.

19. (Previously Presented) The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein said imaging device is a charge coupled device (CCD) that captures the sequence of images.

20. (Previously presented) A method of determining an image-capturing angle of view in an electronic camera, comprising:

displaying a sequence of captured images of an object;

detecting brightness of the object;

capturing the sequence of images and outputting image signals for said sequence of images at a rate defined by an imaging cycle of said imaging device, said imaging cycle defining a maximum exposure period for said imaging device for the captured sequence of images;

automatically changing a default imaging cycle of the imaging device by doubling according to the brightness of the object, thereby changing the maximum exposure period for said imaging device for the captured sequence of images, wherein the changing device doubles the default imaging cycle at least once when the brightness of the object is lower than the brightness corresponding to the default imaging cycle;

temporarily storing the sequentially outputted image signals, said stored image signals are read out with a predetermined interval and outputted to a display; and

controlling the display to display said sequence of images according to the image signals while the imaging device is capturing subsequent images, such that said display shows a live image of the captured sequence of images to enable determination of the image-capturing angle of view.

21. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 20, wherein the changing of the imaging cycle is manually operated to change the cycle of the imaging device.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 20, wherein the changing of the imaging cycle automatically changes the cycle of the imaging device.

23. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 20, further comprising: processing and temporarily storing image signals before outputting to said display.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 23, further comprising: storing select images outputted by said imaging device to a memory card.

25. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 20, wherein said rate is a video rate, and the changing of the image signal changes said video rate to enable said imaging device to output brighter images to said display.

26. (Previously Presented) The method as defined in claim 20, wherein said imaging device is a charge coupled device (CCD) that captures the sequence of images.

27. (New) The electronic camera of claim 1, wherein the changing device halves an imaging cycle longer than the default imaging cycle at least once when the brightness of the object is higher than the brightness corresponding to the imaging cycle.